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THE
MONTHLY



GULL
BULLETIN

Volume 48

Berkeley, Calif.

July 1966

Number 7

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON OFFICERS ELECTED

At the annual dinner on June 9 the following nominees were presented by Paul Covell, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, and were unanimously elected to serve as officers of Golden Gate Audubon Society for 1966-67:

Miss Bertha Underhill	President
Mr. Joshua Barkin	Vice President
Mrs. Hubert Fry	Vice President
Mrs. Alice D. Radcliffe	Treasurer
Mrs. Agnes Oczkewecz	Recording Secretary
Miss Marjorie Atkinson	Corresponding Secretary
Mr. A. Warren Larson	Director

The next regular meeting will be held in September.

FIELD TRIPS FOR JULY

Saturday, July 2 (as announced in the June *Gull*) South Peninsula Coast. Murrelets, murres, guillemots, purple martins, grasshopper sparrows, red-legged partridges (introduced), and black swifts could be seen by covering a variety of habitats. Meet at the Municipal Pier parking lot of Princeton on Half Moon Bay at **9 a.m.** Leader Ted Chandik, 851-0354 (Woodside).

Saturday, July 16, to north side of Mt. Tamalpais for combination bird and botany trip. Meet in the center of Fairfax in the public parking lot at **8:30 a.m.** We shall caravan about two miles to the starting point and then hike across a meadow to see lark sparrows, flycatchers, and bluebirds, plus a variety of flora. From Bon Tempe we shall hike to Lake Lagunitas for lunch, and return. Round trip will be $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 miles. Bring knapsack lunch. Leaders: Miss Patricia Triggs, MO 4-8502, and Mr. L. R. Leinbach, 526-7649.

Bring lunch, binoculars, field guides, and interested friends on all field trips — MRS. VALERIA G. DaCOSTA, *Field Trips Chairman*.

MONTEREY BOAT TRIP

On **Saturday, August 27**, the Monterey boat trip will be at the time of heavy migration of ocean birds that travel on a route fairly close to the Monterey area. Black-footed albatross, sooty and pink-footed shearwaters,

fork-tailed, black and ashy petrels, terns and jaegers can be seen. Fare \$5.00 per person. Make check payable to Golden Gate Audubon Society and mail to Mrs. Valeria G. DaCosta, 2090 Pacific Avenue, San Francisco 94109 with a **stamped, self-addressed envelope enclosed**. Leaders: Guy McCaskie and Rich Stallcup.



AUDUBON CANYON RANCH, BOLINAS LAGOON

Under joint sponsorship of Golden Gate and Marin

Audubon Societies to protect a major rookery of

Common Egrets and Great Blue Herons.

The annual Marin Audubon chicken barbeque at Audubon Canyon Ranch was highly successful. Without having the final tally, it looks as if there were close to 350 people and that the ranch maintenance fund will receive about \$500. This will pay the bill for graveling the yard and oiling the driveway. There is an on-going effort to build up the maintenance fund because of the constant expenses in maintaining and improving the ranch and its facilities. No contributions are placed in the maintenance fund unless the contributor so specifies. For that fund we use the interest from the purchase fund, special contributions, and money from benefits, such as the recent Laurel Reynolds film showing and the barbecue.

The barbecue was notable because the event also marked the installation of bronze plaques memorializing the Schwarz Grove, the Herbert Scott Henderson Overlook, and the Bert Harwell Trail.

In addition to the Bert Harwell Trail, which is for nature study, another new trail was officially opened. This leads from the ranch yard to the overlook and is less steep than the main trail. It was planned and built by Robert Howard, the famous sculptor, and Jo Landor, the San Francisco artist. Miss Landor and Mr. Howard have laid out a trail that is not only easy to climb but is altogether lovely. Mr. Howard named the trail in honor of Alice Kent.

COVEL'S CONSERVATION CORNER

Many Audubon members and friends in the East Bay have been gravely concerned over the probable future of the heronry on the northwestern shore of Lake Chabot since it was announced that portions of this lake and its shores would be opened to the public under agreement between the East Bay Municipal Water District and the East Bay Regional Park District.

Late in May your Conservation Chairman was invited to accompany Christian Nelson, Chief of Interpretive Services for the East Bay Regional Parks, on a brief visit to the rookery. Some thirty-four nests were counted on this visit — twenty-one Common Egret and thirteen Great Blue Heron. All nests were high in Blue Gum Eucalyptus with dead or partially bare

tops and all appeared to contain large young. The parent birds allowed our approach directly below their nests, where some pictures were taken and closer observation made on the colony.

The egret and heron rookery is situated on a sort of peninsula which is rather densely covered with poison oak and other native shrubs and will not be opened to picnickers. The adjacent waters on this end of the lake will remain off-limits to boaters and fishermen, and a log boom guards this area. Mr. Nelson again expressed his interest in the welfare of this colony and we trust this interest will be shared by his associates.

We shall try to revisit the Chabot colony next spring but would welcome some help from Audubon members equipped to check these birds, to trace their flights to feeding grounds, report any interference with them, et cetera. Perhaps a working committee can be formed to do this.

— PAUL F. COVEL, *Conservation Chairman*.

AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILMS — 1966-67

Mrs. Frances Ellen Fallgatter, Wildlife Film Chairman, has received the list of films to be shown on the Audubon Wildlife Series this coming season:

Monday, October 17, 1966: "These Things are Ours" by Mary Jane Doekerey.

Thursday, November 17, 1966: "The Bear River" by Allan Cruickshank.

Tuesday, January 17, 1967: "Canada's Mountain Wilderness" by Edgar T. Jones.

Tuesday, February 14, 1967: "For Generations to Come" by Howard Orians.

Thursday, March 16, 1967: "Village Beneath the Sea" by Harry Pederson.

The first film of the season on **October 17** will be shown in the **Garfield School Auditorium**, Rose Street, Berkeley. The other four films will be presented in the Berkeley Little Theatre, Allston Way and Grove. You may reserve tickets now by sending a check (payable to Golden Gate Audubon Society) to "Audubon Wildlife Films," P.O. Box 103, Berkeley, Calif. 94701. *Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.* Audubon members may obtain season tickets for the series of five films for \$5.00. The season ticket price for non-members will be \$6.00, and for students under 18 it will be \$3.00. All tickets will be mailed in September.

MAY FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Tilden Park, Berkeley — May 5 — Sixteen birders hiked along several trails in the Tilden Nature Area, Thursday, May 5. Near the Little Farm two flashes of color turned out to be a western tanager chasing a house finch from a pine tree. On poison oak near Laurel Creek a male calliope hummingbird posed for close-up views. He also demonstrated his display dive. Bullock's orioles were nesting in both red gum and blue gum eucalyptus trees. In Woodland Camp we stopped to watch a pair of cedar waxwings passing a berry back and forth to each other, while house wrens and

black-headed grosbeaks were singing on both sides of the trail. Nuttall's woodpecker drilled on a dead tree in Laurel Canyon. In the adjacent tree, bees were taking over last year's flicker nest. Two Townsend's warblers in bright spring plumage were foraging in the top of a live oak. On the Pack Rat Trail in the afternoon we enjoyed the song and close views of MacGillivray's warblers. A warbling vireo was picking at a torn vireo nest in the top of a California laurel, and two male lazuli buntings appeared in full sunlight in the willows. On a willow tree trunk slanted at a 45-degree angle, a mourning dove balanced her casual-style nest — camouflaged as a bump on the trunk. Species total for the day: 49 — VI HOMEM, *Leader & Historian*.

Mt. Diablo — Bird Trip on May 14 — Singing black-chinned, sage, and rufous-crowned sparrows observed at close range were the reward of seven early risers who met at 7 a.m. at Mt. Diablo. Our search for migrants was less successful when, quite in contrast to large concentrations on the upper slopes of the mountain during May of previous years, we found only about two dozen transients. Among them were the solitary vireo, hermit and Townsend's warblers, and western tanager. Other observations of interest included a great horned owl being mobbed by scrub jays, a blue-gray gnatcatcher on its lichen nest, and a California thrasher that momentarily fooled us with an imitation of a poor-will's call. All who didn't get out of bed early to be with us missed a most delightful day. — MARIE L. MANS, *Leader & Historian*.

Mt. Diablo — Wildflower Trip on May 19 — Although drouth came to the mountain a month early, there was still a wealth of flowers. Conspicuous in the landscape were the whitish-flowered woody plants, chamise, elderberry, clematis, and the hop tree. At Rock City lilies predominated, with four brodiaeas, including white hyacinthina, and two mariposas. Buttercups characterized Juniper Camp, with larkspur and columbine, though meadow rue and clematis there had gone by. Along the road to the summit the sunflower family furnished a multitude of lavender thistles (*Cirsium proteanum*) and rich "Oregon Sunshine" (*Eriophyllum*). Elsewhere the road was lined with black sage and yerba santa (waterleaf family). Most beautiful of all — in the chaparral-lined walls of the canyon north of Rock City — was an abundance of cerise chaparral pea in its prime. — MARSHALL JENCKS, *Leader & Historian*.

OBSERVATIONS

May 13 — From Jack L. Mann Jr.: An osprey at Loeh Lomond Reservoir in Santa Cruz County.

May 15 — From Robert Brewer: 6 western tanagers in the pine trees on Castle Park Way (Piedmont Pines area in Oakland hills).

May 28 — From Jeffrey Greenhouse: A white-throated sparrow in the U.C. Botanical Gardens, Berkeley.

June 2 — On Bolinger Canyon Road, near Moraga, Alice Merieourt and Vi Homem saw a pair of Lawrence's goldfinches about ten feet away,

and Phyllis Zweigart found a pair of Lawrence's goldfinches on St. Mary's College campus on May 22.

June 4 — From Val and Bob DaCosta: 2 black oystercatchers on the rocks below the Cliff House, San Francisco.

June 5 — From Dr. Anne Watkins: a pair of western tanagers at Chico court (Oakland hills).

BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA — A NEW FIELD GUIDE

All birds of both eastern and western North America are illustrated in full color in a new pocket-size field guide, *Birds of North America*, published in May by Golden Press. Its 340 pages identify 699 species (breeding birds, regular and casual visitors) in the continental United States, Alaska, and Canada.

This concise guide was produced by a team of specialists. The co-authors are Chandler Robbins, Chief of the Migratory Non-game Bird Studies Section of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife and Technical Editor of *Audubon Field Notes*, Dr. Bertel Bruun, ornithologist and author of *Ducks, Geese and Swans*, another Golden Press book, and Dr. Herbert S. Zim, noted author or editor of over 60 science books, including the Golden Nature Guides. The illustrator is Arthur Singer, artist-naturalist, member of National Audubon Society and the American Ornithologists' Union. Mr. Singer also illustrated *Birds of the World*. W. T. Van Velzen, our former Point Reyes Observatory biologist, contributed measurement data.

A unique feature of this field guide is the use of Sonagrams, a scientific technique that diagrams the birds' songs from recordings made in the field. They are visual reproductions made electronically to depict the exact song patterns of over 300 species.

Colored range maps show summer and winter distribution and date lines for spring migration.

The Sonagrams, maps, pictures, and text are conveniently arranged so that all important identification points for one species can be found on one page with its adjacent illustration. This 4½ x 7½" book contains more information per square inch than most field guides.

Additional aids for identification are the comparative silhouettes and flight illustrations. Winter, summer, juvenal, and immature plumages are shown when noticeably different. Most of the land bird paintings have a background of typical plants associated with the breeding habitats. This feature is especially interesting on the two pages of *Empidonax* flycatchers. The distinguishing characteristics of some confusing groups of birds are clarified in the following special sections: Female Ducks in Flight, Dark and Light Buteos in Flight, Winter Plumage of Smaller Shorebirds, Wood Warblers With and Without Wingbars, Fall Warblers, Streaked and Unstreaked-Breast Sparrows.

For beginning birders the field guide includes an outline of the main characteristics of six shorebird families and the typical behavior of nine species — pages 106-107. Another special aid for the beginner is a summary

of the clues to the identification of 25 families of perching birds (Order *Passeriformes*) on pages 188-189 with cross reference to the main entries. (Beginners should write page 106 and 188 at the top of the index.) Both scientific and common names are listed in the index. A two-page bibliography includes outstanding books, periodicals, and recordings.

Published just in time for summer trips, this handy new guide fits comfortably, along with Peterson, in a standard field guide carrier. The plastic-coated paperback edition of *Birds of North America* is \$2.95, and the library edition is \$4.95, both available from the National Audubon Conservation Resource Center, 2426 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, Cal., 94704.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to our Society: from Alameda, Dr. Robert French and Family; from Berkeley, Mr. Thomas E. Dum, Mrs. Hans Jenny, Mrs. Gayland Jordan, Mrs. Graham B. Moody, Virginia O'Rourke, Mrs. E. G. Potter, Dorothy Spurling, Mrs. Reginald Thomas, Norma Way, Ina Willman, Mrs. Paul Weingart; from Concord, Mr. and Mrs. Garard; from Cupertino, Mr. Stephen Rowland; from El Cerrito, Mr. Dave Tilles; from Kensington, Mr. Harold F. Stevens and Family; from Lafayette, Mrs. Johnson Clark; from Oakland, Alice G. Gray, Patricia L. Kite, Mr. Paul Scruggs, Gladys H. Stevens, Mrs. Roxanne Terrill; from Orinda, Mrs. L. B. Ambler; from Petaluma, Mr. George Blitz; from Placerville, Mr. Edwin C. Carroll; from Richmond, Mr. A. Grover; from San Francisco, Mrs. O. R. Diekey, Mr. and Mrs. John Elsesser, Rose Greenfeld, Mrs. Kathryn Mowbray, Mrs. Betty Van Peperzeel, Millieent Wright.

THE CYGNET IS FOR CHILDREN

If you know a child who would like to receive his or her own bulletin, you may send a gift subscription to *The Cygnet* for \$1.00 through Mrs. M. S. Nickelsburg, *Cygnet* Editor, 2585 Union Street, San Francisco, Calif. 94123.

MEMORIAL GIFTS TO AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

In Memory of:

Gift of:

Daisy Johnson	Ivander Maelver and Frances J. Blake
Cornelia C. Pringle	Laura A. Stephens and Janet W. Pringle
Newton B. Coghill	Elizabeth McClave
Mrs. Cecile Stowell.....	Mr. and Mrs. Philip S. Breek and Ethel E. Richardson
Mrs. Oscar M. Olson	Mrs. Margaret Sehave

A gift was made to Audubon Canyon Ranch *in honor of* Mr. Herbert Coggins on his 85th birthday by Miriam, Ruth, Jeanette, and Benjamin Caro. A gift was also made to Canyon Ranch *in honor of* Mrs. Hubert M. Fry by Barbara P. Baeh. — DR. ALBERT BOLES, *Sanctuary & Memorial Fund Chairman*, 854 Longridge Rd., Oakland, Calif. 94610.

NOTE: For *The Gull* to continue to qualify for the bulk mail rate, it will be necessary for every address to contain the zip code by the end of this year. If we do not have your zip number, please send it to the Membership Secretary, Mrs. Zella Cushman, 3156 Gough, San Francisco 94123.

**GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.
TREASURER'S REPORT**

May 31, 1965

Cash and Securities at cost \$9,284.57

OPERATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR ended May 31, 1966:

RECEIPTS:

Membership Dues \$4,194.00"GULL" Subscriptions 153.50"CYGNET" Subscriptions 89.00Interest and Dividends 322.55

Miscellaneous Income:

 Gifts to Aquatic Park Program 20.00 Lastreto Estate 7.68 Profit from sale of Securities 152.06 179.74

AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILMS:

 Income 2,076.00 Expenses 1,382.01 693.99NET RECEIPTS: 5,632.78

DISBURSEMENTS:

"GULL" Printing and Mailing 2,091.85"CYGNET" Printing and Mailing 508.55Field Trips and Meetings 145.78Insurance, 3-year coverage 407.00Misc. Operating Expense, Telephone, Postage. 563.11

Annotated Field Check List for Northern

 California Birds production expense 31.12

GIFTS AND DONATIONS:

 Audubon Canyon Ranch* 539.97 Condor Fund (2 years) 400.00 Alameda Conservation Assn. 100.00 Dickey House, Richardson Bay 100.00 Miscellaneous 155.00 1,294.97NET DISBURSEMENTS: 5,042.38

May 31, 1966

Cash in banks \$9,874.97

*In addition to promotional expenses herewith, the net surplus derived from two benefits in the amount of \$277.93, was paid directly to the Maintenance Fund of Audubon Canyon Ranch.

EXPENDITURES APPROVED FOR future disbursement:

Publications cost of Annotated Field List for Northern California Birds to the amount of \$1,500.00 and support of a naturalist for Audubon Canyon Ranch, \$1,500.00.

— ALICE D. RADCLIFFE, *Treasurer*



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GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Established January 25, 1917 A Branch of the National Audubon Society since 1948

President	Miss Bertha Underhill	35 Tamalpais Rd., Berkeley	848-0131
Vice President	Joshua Barkin	Tilden Park Nature Area, Berkeley	524-2495
Vice President	Mrs. Hubert Fry	57 Rockwood Ct., San Francisco 94127	731-2874
Treasurer	Mrs. Alice D. Radcliffe	2101 Bay St., San Francisco	JO 7-5856
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Agnes Oczkewecz	101 Upper Terrace, San Francisco 94117	564-2833
Corresponding Secretary	Miss Marjorie M. Atkinson	4 Willow Lane, Kensington	525-2702
Director	A. Warren Larson	44 Rincon Rd., Berkeley 94707	525-9149
Director	Miss Erlene Hevel	425 Ulloa St., San Francisco	661-4251
Director	Robert C. DaCosta, Jr.	2090 Pacific Ave., San Francisco 9	931-5257
Editor	Mrs. Violet Homem	6911 Armour Dr., Oakland 11	655-8886
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Membership Secretary	Mrs. Zella Cushman	3156 Gough, San Francisco 94123	673-5310
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Wildlife Film Chairman	Mrs. Frances Ellen Fallgatter	406 El Cerrito, Piedmont 11	OL 5-9582
Conservation Chairman	Paul F. Covell	2860 Delaware St., Oakland 2	KE 6-4120
Canyon Ranch Film Distribution Chairman	Mrs. Bonnie Smith	555 Dewey Blvd., San Francisco	OV 1-7635
Audubon Canyon Ranch Fund Raising	Mrs. Myra Browne	482 Broadmoor, San Leandro	568-1921

Claims for missing numbers of THE GULL should be sent to the Editor. Changes of address should be sent to the Membership Secretary.

Monthly meetings second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint Membership, Local and National \$8.50 per year, Includes AUDUBON MAGAZINE and THE GULL. Subscription to THE GULL separately \$2.00 per year.

Visit the Conservation Center of the NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
2426 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, California 94704 848-4042